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must be carried out as soon as possible, and, in any case, must not take longer than twenty-four hours, and so as to avoid damage to merchandise and to the ship's plating and engines, and also so as not to interfere with the coming and going of passengers and crew between ship and shore. In the case of ships in ballast, the process, if there be occasion for it, shall be carried out as soon as possible, and, in any case, before taking cargo.

If a ship from an infected port has been subjected to measures of rat destruction, these can not be repeated unless the ship has called at an infected port and has there brought up to the quay, or unless sick or dead rats are found on board.

The crew and passengers may be subjected to surveillance during a period which shall not exceed five days, reckoned from the date on which the ship left the infected port. The crew may, during the same period, be prevented from leaving the ship except on duty.

The competent authority at the port of arrival may, in all cases, exact a certificate, given on oath, from the doctor of the ship, or, in his default, from the captain, testifying that there has not been a case of plague on board since departure, and that unusual mortality among rats has not been observed.

#### RATS.

Rats may transmit the disease from one port to another, and in some foreign ports—Constantinople, for example—it is required that ships arriving from contaminated ports must possess a certificate that rats were destroyed before loading.

Continuous effort should be made to destroy rats on board ship, and it is probable that any ship carrying a mongoose would rapidly become rat-free. Short of this, their destruction is most readily accomplished by sulphur fumigation when the holds are empty.

The public health department is also prepared to direct and supervise the fumigation of ships with this view, and to certify accordingly.

In order that effect may be given to the foregoing proposals, intimation should be sent to the medical officer of health of the berth at which the ship is lying, and in the case of outgoing ships the probable hour of sailing should be stated.

I am, yours truly,

WM. ROBERTSON, M. D., D. P. H.,  
*Medical Officer of Health.*

#### GUATEMALA.

##### *Report from Livingston, fruit port.*

Acting Assistant Surgeon Peters reports as follows: Week ended May 13, 1905: Present officially estimated population, 3,500; no deaths reported; prevailing diseases, malarial; general sanitary condition of this port and the surrounding country during the week, good.

Bills of health were issued to the following-named vessels:

Date.	Vessel.	Number of crew.	Number of passengers from this port.	Number of passengers in transit.	Pieces of baggage disinfected.
May 9	Anselm .....	41	6	0	0
11	Spero .....	18	0	0	0
10	Nicaragua .....	18	0	0	0

The steamships *Anselm* and *Nicaragua* cleared from Puerto Barrios.

#### HONDURAS.

##### *Report from Ceiba, fruit port.*

Acting Assistant Surgeon Robertson reports as follows: Week ended May 13, 1905. Present officially estimated population, about 4,000; 2 deaths; prevailing diseases, malarial; general sanitary condition of this port and the surrounding country during the week, good.

Bills of health were issued to the following-named vessels:

Date.	Vessel.	Number of crew.	Number of passengers from this port.	Number of passengers in transit.	Pieces of baggage disinfected.
May 7	Rosina.....	28	3	0	0
10	Jos. Vaccaro.....	29	10	0	0
11	Jamaica.....	17	1	0	0
11	Condor.....	17	0	0	0

Number of aliens sailing from this port during week, 9.

*Report from Puerto Cortez, fruit port.*

Acting Assistant Surgeon Carter reports as follows: Week ended May 12, 1905. Present officially estimated population, 4,000; number of deaths, 2; prevailing diseases, malarial fever of mild type; general sanitary condition of this port and the surrounding country during the week, good.

Bills of health were issued to the following-named vessels:

Date.	Vessel.	Number of crew.	Number of passengers from this port.	Number of passengers in transit.	Pieces of baggage disinfected.
May 8	Gyller.....	14	0	0	0
8	Damaraland <sup>a</sup> .....	6	0	0	0
9	Habil.....	17	0	0	0
11	Anselm.....	41	2	6	0
12	Nicaragua.....	18	0	0	0

<sup>a</sup> For Stamford, Conn., via Belize, British Honduras.

*Yellow fever at Puerto Cortez.*

PUERTO CORTEZ, May 29, 1905.

WYMAN, Washington:

Five cases yellow fever; 3 deaths.

CARTER.

ITALY.

*Report from Naples—Inspection of vessels—Infectious diseases—Quarantine regulations—Mohammedan pilgrimage—Anchylostomiasis in Germany—Typhus fever in Austria.*

Passed Assistant Surgeon McLaughlin reports, May 15, as follows:

During the week ended May 13, 1905, the following ships were inspected at Naples:

NAPLES.

Date.	Name of ship.	Destination.	Steerage passengers inspected and passed.	Pieces of large baggage inspected and passed.	Pieces of baggage disinfected.	Number of steerage passengers recommended for rejection.
May 7	Città di New York.....	New York.....	878	60	1,250	8
9	Prinz Adalbert.....	do.....	1,047	70	1,450	20
10	Republic.....	do.....	2,273	180	2,850	36
11	Patris.....	do.....	714	60	1,250	25
11	Città di Torino.....	do.....	1,340	75	1,780	43
12	Neckar.....	do.....	2,642	210	3,450	35